COMBAT KELLY

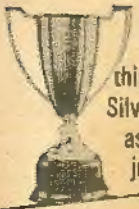
JAN.
NO. 9

10¢

ATLAS

THERE ISN'T ROOM IN KOREA FOR COMBAT KELLY AND THE COMMIES!

AND COMBAT AIN'T LEAVING!



YOU can **WIN** this big 15" Silver Trophy as Roger just did

When I enrolled I was a skinny, sick weakling. I was shy with girls because I had nothing to show off. A few weeks after starting the Jowett Course my body was the best in the neighborhood. Now I get respect and admiration from every fellow and girl I meet.

Roger D'Hirsch

ROGER HIRSCH was an 112 lb. 6 ft. weakling LOOK AT HIM NOW!

Aren't YOU as SICK and Tired as I was of being SKINNY ?

CHICKEN-CHESTED
SPINDLE-ARMED
NARROW-SHOULDERED
SHORT-WINDED
WEAK, HALF-ALIVE
JEERED, BULLIED

Then do as I did...
MAIL THE COUPON BELOW

I gained 53 lbs. of mighty muscle
I added 6½ inches to my CHEST
3 inches to each ARM
And the rest in proportion — ALL IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS by using the JOWETT SYSTEM for building Real HE-MEN

Come on, PAL, Now **YOU** give me **10** pleasant Minutes a Day in your own home . . . and I'll give **YOU** a **NEW HE-MAN BODY** for your **OLD SKELETON FRAME.**

says GEORGE F. JOWETT
World's Greatest Builder of **HE-MEN**

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are; if you're a teen-ager, in your 20's or 30's or over; if you're short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is JUST 10 EXCITING MINUTES in your home to MAKE YOU OVER by the SAME METHOD I turned myself from a wreck to a Champion of Champions.

YES! You'll see INCH upon INCH of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to YOUR ARMS. Your CHEST deepened. Your BACK AND SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels, you'll gain SOLIDITY, SIZE, POWER, SPEED! You'll become an ALL-Around, ALL-American HE-MAN, a WINNER in everything you tackle—or my Training won't cost you one solitary cent!

George F. Jowett Whom experts call "Champion of Champions"
- World's wrestling and wt. lifting champ
- World's Strongest Arms.
- 4 times "World's Perfect Body" Winner.

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES, FAST!

Friend, I've traveled the world. Made a LIFETIME STUDY of every way known to develop your body. Then I devised the BEST by TEST, my "5-WAY PROGRESSIVE POWER" the only method that builds you 5-ways fast. You save YEARS, DOLLARS like movie star Tom Tyler did. Like Champ Roger Hirsch did. Like MANY THOUSANDS like you did. SO . . .

MAIL COUPON NOW and GET

NOW LET ME MAKE YOU LIKE ROGER A WINNER IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE

WHAM
DARLING, HIM BULLY WON'T PICK ON YOU AGAIN.
JOE WALLOPED ANOTHER HOMER—HE'S SURE TO BE CAPTAIN NOW.
JOE YOUR NEW ENERGY AND APPEARANCE SURE DO A GOOD JOB! YOU EARNED YOUR PROMOTION.

BOTH FREE!
1. Photo Book of STRONG MEN
2. MUSCLE METER

MA-31

"Jowett Courses greatest in World for Building All-Around HE-MEN". —R.F. Kelley Physical Director

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Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs—Now all in One Volume "How to Become a Mighty He-Man." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (No C.O.D's).

NAME _____ AGE _____
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This may be Your LAST chance to GET AMAZING
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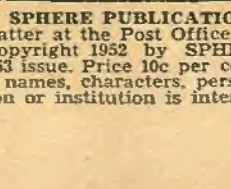
All these **5** Picture Packed COURSES on He-Man Building for only while supply lasts! **10¢**



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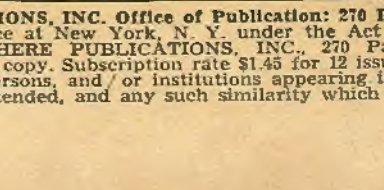
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How to Build A MIGHTY CHEST
How to Build A MIGHTY GRIP
How to Build A MIGHTY BACK
How to Build MIGHTY LEGS
FREE Photo Book How to Achieve Nerves of Steel, Muscles of Iron

FREE!
If you mail coupon NOW
1 MUSCLE METER
2 JOWETT'S Photo Book of Famous Strong Men!

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GET INTO THE THICK OF BATTLE WITH...

COMBAT KELLY

COMBAT KELLY AND HIS PAL COOKIE NOVAK ARE ON THEIR WAY BACK FROM A DRY-RUN PATROL BEHIND ENEMY LINES...
NOTHIN' TO REPORT... THE MAJOR AIN'T GONNA LIKE THAT, COMBAT!
YEAH... HE'LL SAY WE WERE OUT GOOFIN' OFF UNDER SOME SHADY TREE INSTEAD OF LOOKIN' FOR REDS!
IF THAT'S WHAT HE SEZ, I'M GONNA PULL OFF MY BLAZIN' BROGANS AN SHOW HIM THE BLISTERS ON MY FEET... AN' THAT AIN'T WHERE YA GET 'EM FROM SITTIN'...
SH-H-H! TURN OFF THE TALK, COOKIE! I HEAR SOMETHIN' ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THESE BUSHES! LET'S TAKE A PEEK!

HOLD THAT POSE, COMRADE SKUNK... OR YOU'LL GET YOUR QUILTED ZOOT-SUIT CLEANED AND PRESSED WITH .45 CALIBER LEAD!
JOE MANELY
INKS BY MARK CHAPMAN

ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES ARE PURELY COINCIDENTAL

BUT THE RED IGNORES THE ORDER AND WHIRLS AROUND SLASHING AT COMBAT WITH HIS BIG KNIFE...

OW-W!

COMBAT FALLS TO THE GROUND AS THE RED GRABS HIS SWORD IN BOTH HANDS AND LIFTS IT ABOVE HIS HEAD LIKE AN EXECUTIONER AT A CHOPPING BLOCK...

WHEN COMBAT HEARS THE BLADE CUTTING THE AIR ABOVE HIS HEAD, HE MAKES A SWIFT MOVE AND...

WE GOT SOMETHIN' TO REPORT *NOW*, COMBAT!

YEAH... AN' IF WE GOT HERE A FEW MINUTES LATER THE REPORT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO EASY TO MAKE!

COMBAT AND COOKIE UNTIE THE KOREAN FARMER AND HIS WIFE AND THEN THEIR LITTLE GIRL COMES UP TO COMBAT AND...

SHE WISHES YOU TO HAVE HER DOLL! SHE IS VERY FOND OF IT, AND IT IS HER WAY OF OFFERING THANKS FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR US!

AW-W-- I...I CAN'T TAKE HER DOLL!

BUT I'LL GIVE HER A HUNK'A K-RATION CHOCOLATE... AN' THAT'S MY WAY OF SAYIN' THANKS!

YOU AMERICANS ARE VERY KIND! BUT NOW WE MUST GO TO SINGYE, WHERE MY CHAN-HI'S GRANDFATHER IS! WE WERE ON OUR WAY WHEN THE INVADERS SEIZED US AND CALLED US SPIES!

SO LONG, CHAN-HI... MAYBE WE'LL BE SEEIN' YA SOMETIME!

CAN YA BEAT THAT, COOKIE? THAT LI'L KOREAN KID OFFERED US HER DOLL FOR SAVIN' HER MOTHER AN' FATHER!

YEAH... A DOLL MADE OF OL' RAGS... BUT TO HER THE MOST VALUABLE THING IN THE WHOLE WORLD... NEXT TO HER FOLKS!

ON THE WAY BACK TO THEIR OUTFIT WITH THE PRISONERS, COMBAT AND COOKIE DON'T SAY MUCH... BUT THEY DO A LOT OF THINKING...

I'M GONNA SEND TO THE STATES FOR A DOLL... THE BIGGEST ONE THEY GOT!

IT'LL TAKE A FEW WEEKS TO COME... BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT! CRIPES... HER EYES'LL POP WHEN SHE SEES THE DOLL!

WHEN THE TWO DOGGIES REACH THEIR OUTFIT, THEY TURN OVER THE PRISONERS TO MAJOR THORN...

YOU MEN MAY NOT KNOW IT... BUT YOU HIT THE JACKPOT WHEN YOU NABBED THOSE TWO REDS! THEY'RE FROM A HEADQUARTERS OUTFIT AND THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL US PLENTY! YOUR GOOD WORK DESERVES A REWARD... SO I'M GIVING YOU BOTH A 24-HOUR PASS!

HUH?

YA HEARD HIM... LET'S GIT!

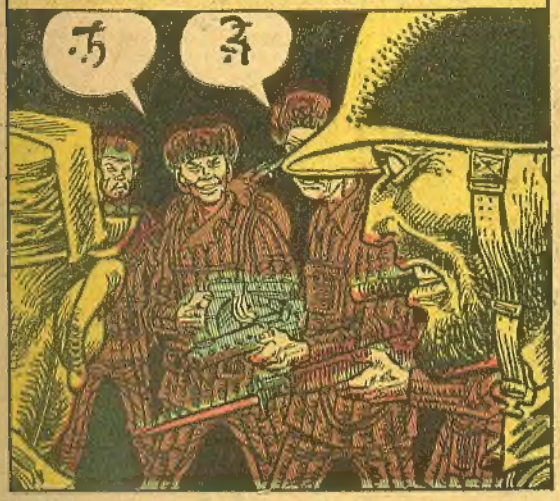
COMBAT AND COOKIE TAKE A HELMET BATH AND CHANGE THEIR SOCKS... THEN THEY'RE ALL SET TO GO...

BUT WHERE WE GOIN'?

I DUNNO! I AIN'T HAD A PASS IN SO LONG, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH FREE TIME!

LET'S ASK THE SARGE! HE LOOKS AS IF HE'S JUST COMIN' BACK FROM PAINTIN' THE TOWN RED!
HEY, SARGE...COOKIE AN' I JUST LANDED A 24-HOUR PASS... WHERE'S A GOOD PLACE AROUND HERE TO SPEND IT?
DON'T MENTION THE WORD "SPEND" TO ME! I JUST GOT BACK FROM A 3-DAY LEAVE IN PUSAN WHERE I SPENT A FORTUNE IN A P.X. FOR A PRESENT A GUY IN CAMP ASKED ME TO BUY FOR HIM... AN' WHEN I GET BACK HERE WITH IT... I FIND OUT THAT HE'S BEEN TRANSFERRED OUT!
CAN'T YA USE IT YERSELF, SARGE?
DO I LOOK LIKE THE KIND'A GUY WHO'D PLAY WITH A DOLL!?
DID YOU SAY A... A...
...A DOLL!
GIVE IT HERE, O'HOOLIGAN... AN' THANKS!
HERE'S YER DOUGH ...TAKE IT ALL... AN' SO LONG, SARGE... YER A DOLL!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THOSE TWO HAD SOME LOOSE BOLTS IN THEIR NOGGINS... NOW I'M SURE OF IT!
THE DOLL SOLVES COMBAT'S AND COOKIE'S PROBLEM ABOUT WHERE TO SPEND THE PASS! A HALF HOUR LATER, THEY'RE ON THE ROAD LEADING TO SINGYE...
YA SURE THIS'S THE RIGHT TOWN, COOKIE?
SURE, I'M SURE! I HEARD THE KID'S MOTHER MENTION THE NAME! DON'T WORRY, WE'LL FIND CHAN-HI... AN' WHEN SHE LAYS THOSE COAL-BLACK PEEPERS ON THIS DOLL, SHE'LL BE THE HAPPIEST KID IN KOREA!
HEY, THIS AIN'T A BAD LOOKIN' BURG! AN' LOOK AT THE WELCOME WE'RE GETTIN'!
YEAH... I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE YELLIN'... BUT THEY SURE ARE GLAD TO SEE US!
JAHN-JOO! KWALEE CHU! SHYOW GHIN! CHOU JEN PING-TING!*
*STOP! GO QUICKLY! DANGER! ENEMY SOLDIERS!

COMBAT AND COOKIE DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WARNINGS WHICH THE KOREANS SHOUT.. BUT THEY HAVE NO DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING THE REDS WHO POUR INTO THE STREET...



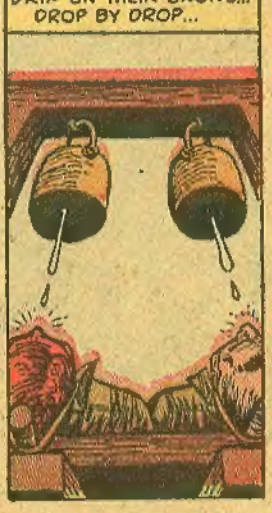
THEY ARE TAKEN TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT THE RED HEADQUARTERS AND..

THESE STUPID AMERICANS STROLLED INTO TOWN CARRYING THIS DUMMY, COMRADE COLONEL!
DESTROY IT! AND THEN DESTROY THEM! BUT DO IT SLOWLY... WITH THE DRIPPING WATER METHOD!

COMBAT AND COOKIE ARE FORCED TO KNEEL IN THE STREET...

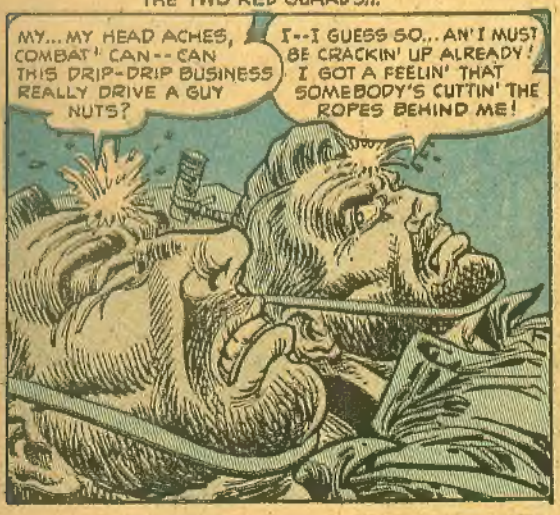
THEN THEIR HANDS ARE TIED AND THEIR HEADS TILTED BACK BY ROPES...

FROM CANS ABOVE THEIR HEADS, WATER IS MADE TO DRIP ON THEIR BROWS... DROP BY DROP...



AND BY NIGHTTIME THE TINY DROPS FEEL LIKE THE POUNDING OF SLEDGE-HAMMERS ON THEIR FOREHEADS...

DRIP... DRIP... DRIP... THAT IS THE ONLY SOUND FAR INTO THE NIGHT! AND THEN IT'S DROWNED OUT BY THE SNORING OF THE TWO RED GUARDS..

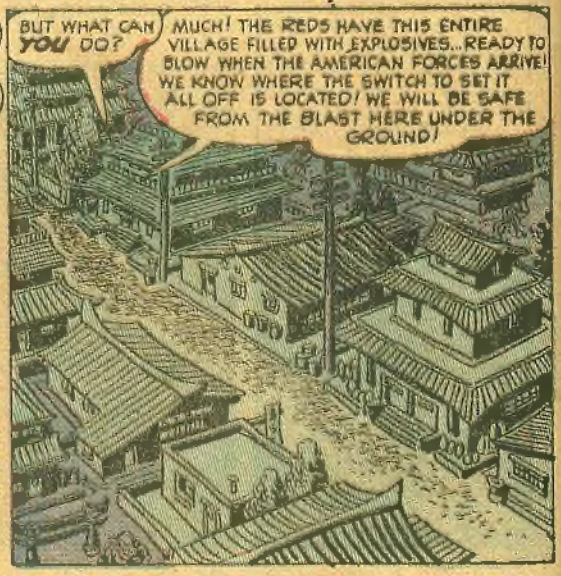

MY... MY HEAD ACHES, COMBAT! CAN-- CAN THIS DRIP-DRIP BUSINESS REALLY DRIVE A GUY NUTS?
I--I GUESS SO... AN' I MUST BE CRACKIN' UP ALREADY! I GOT A FEELIN' THAT SOMEBODY'S CUTTIN' THE ROPES BEHIND ME!

WE'LL FOLLOW... BUT LET'S TAKE CARE OF THESE TWO SLEEPIN' UGLIES FIRST! GRAB THE OTHER ONE!
HE'S GRABBED!

NOW THEY'RE COMFY AND COZY! I'M GLAD WE WON'T BE AROUND TO SEE IF THIS PERCOLATOR TREATMENT REALLY WORKS! IF THESE REDS ARE SANE... I'D HATE TO SEE HOW THEY ACT WHEN THEY'RE NUTS! OKAY, CHAN-HI... LEAD ON!

THE LITTLE GIRL LEADS THEM THRU DARK, WINDING ALLEYS... THEN INTO A CELLAR WHERE A GROUP OF KOREANS WAITS..
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, LITTLE ONE!
WELCOME TO OUR HUMBLE HIDE-OUT! BUT YOU MUST NOT STAY LONG! WE WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY OUT AND BACK TO YOUR OWN PEOPLE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU AND THE OTHERS? WHY ARE YOU STAYING BEHIND? WHERE'S CHAN-HI'S MOTHER AND FATHER?
THE INVADERS PUT THEM AGAINST THE FIRING WALL SOON AFTER THEY ARRIVED! I AM HER GRANDPARENT... AND ALSO ELDER OF THE VILLAGE! I REMAIN TO LEAD MY PEOPLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ENEMY OF KOREA!


BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO?
MUCH! THE REDS HAVE THIS ENTIRE VILLAGE FILLED WITH EXPLOSIVES... READY TO BLOW WHEN THE AMERICAN FORCES ARRIVE! WE KNOW WHERE THE SWITCH TO SET IT ALL OFF IS LOCATED! WE WILL BE SAFE FROM THE BLAST HERE UNDER THE GROUND!

ALL OF US FROM THE VILLAGE GATHERED TONIGHT TO CHOOSE WHO WILL RISK HIS LIFE TO IGNITE THE EXPLOSIVES!
OKAY.. THE POLLS ARE CLOSED! COOKIE AN' I HAVE BEEN ELECTED! JUST TELL US WHERE THE THROTTLE IS!

THE KOREAN ELDER BRIEFS THE DOGGIES AND THEY CLIMB OUT AND SNEAK INTO THE DARKNESS...
THERE'S THE SPOT... THE STRIPED POLE WITH THE BOX!
AH' TWO GUARDS... LIKE THE OLD MAN SAID!

TWO GUARDS... AND THEN THERE WERE NONE...

COMBAT FRIES OPEN THE LOCK AND OPENS THE SWITCH BOX...

THE OLD GUY SAID IT'S TIMED TO BLOW THREE MINUTES AFTER THE LEVER IS PULLED! HERE GOES!

THE WAY I'M GONNA TEAR UP THE DIRT, I'LL HAVE 2 MINUTES AND 59 SECONDS TO SPARE!

THE TWO DOGGIES TEAR THRU THE ALLEYS...THEY REACH THE UNDERGROUND HIDING PLACE JUST IN TIME!

A VIOLENT BLAST SHAKES THE ENTIRE TOWN...

BUILDINGS CRUMBLE, AND DISAPPEAR IN MOUNTAINS OF FLAME AND SMOKE! MEN...MACHINERY ARE HURLED INTO THE AIR! THE TINY VILLAGE OF SINGYE ERUPTS WITH THE FURY OF A VOLCANO...

IT IS MANY HOURS BEFORE THE TWO G.I.'S AND THE KOREANS CAN LEAVE THE SAFETY OF THEIR CELLAR TO SEE THE RUINS OF SINGYE...

THERE IS NOT MUCH LEFT, BUT WE ARE RID OF THE INVADERS! SINGYE SHALL RISE AGAIN AND BE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN BEFORE... FOR IT WILL BE A MONUMENT TO OUR FIGHT FOR FREEDOM!

AN' YOU'LL HAVE THAT FREEDOM... WE'RE HERE TO SEE TO *THAT!*

IN THE RUINS COMBAT FINDS THE DOLL HE AND COOKIE BOUGHT FOR CHAN-HI...

IT'S KINDA BANGED UP... AN'--AN...

DO NOT APOLOGIZE! SHE SAYS IT IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DOLL SHE HAS EVER SEEN...AND SHE WANTS TO THANK BOTH OF YOU!

SMACK!

AND AS COOKIE AND COMBAT BID THE KOREANS FAREWELL AND WALK OFF TOWARD THEIR LINES, THEY'RE NOT ASHAMED OF THE TEARS IN THEIR EYES..

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

THE LETTER

RICK PARKER was returning to his company from the hospital.

Rick had been in the field hospital for a week, and all that week he had hated himself violently for letting himself be "wounded by a mere match. He had laughed to himself when he remembered lighting a cigarette one morning, and how the flame had ignited the open matchbook and sent flames shooting up his arms in painful streaks.

"Wounded in action," Rick laughed, as he sped in a jeep toward his company immediately after leaving the hospital. "What a laugh. If my company were behind the lines any farther, I'd be back home selling gas in Chippy's Station."

"Welcome back, Rick, from your bed of pain." Fuzz said good-naturedly.

"Aw, go drown yourself," Rick teased, still annoyed at his own carelessness. "Not that I missed anything though, because I see all you brave souls are still bringing up the rear."

"Nope," Howie said, "not much action around here . . . but here's some news . . . we got a new guy . . . just transferred from another outfit. His name's Larry . . . Larry Boehm."

Fuzz put his hand on Rick's good arm when he saw his buddy catch his breath suddenly. "Say, somethin' wrong, Rick? The arm hurtin' ya?"

"Arm nothing," Rick sneered, his eyes wild. "I just forgot about my arm . . . in fact I just forgot everything . . . except Larry Boehm. Where is he?"

A voice from behind him startled Rick. "Here I am, Rick," Larry said, extending a hand toward Rick. "How's the boy?" he asked, a wide smile on his face. It was a smile of a man meeting someone from his own town, here in a place thousands of miles away from familiar things.

"Don't make me laugh, kid, to think you really want to know how Rick Parker is. You may have requested a transfer to a new company of men, but wherever you were before was better than where you are now. A bunch of swell guys make this one up, and there's no room for . . . for sneaks like you."

"Aw, come on," Larry protested, still smiling, "Let's forget what happened back home. This is war, and we're together. Why, this is almost like old times. How about it, Rick?" Larry asked, hopefully.

But Rick didn't answer. He saw in his mind Jean Engel, beautiful, golden - haired Jean, the girl that both he and Larry had dated. The girl that showed neither one any more affection than the other, but just laughed and smiled her own special brand of charming smile. Suddenly, Rick turned on his heels and walked away, leaving Larry disappointed, standing blank-eyed beside Fuzz and Howie.

Larry tried on several occasions to be friendly toward Rick, but Rick avoided his one-time friend like the plague. And then one day the men got orders to move.

"We're moving up," Sergeant Mooney yelled, "up to the front. We'll be battling it out within two days, so ya can put these past days of leisure in back of yer minds."

They travelled the next few days toward the front, and from hour to hour the noises of battle became louder, the flames brighter, the smoke thicker and blacker with each advancing mile. The men joked and laughed, but inside all of them was the feelings of men going to battle, perhaps to death.

And the feeling of comradeship grew even more intense among the men, as they drew closer to the Communist forces. But still Rick Parker avoided Larry, and mulled over in his mind the picture of Jean Engel. He laughed to think that he himself had introduced Larry to Jean, but he had had no right to interfere when she had wished to date the both of them. He had not been prepared to ask her to marry him, for that matter neither had Larry, and Jean had refused to let either one know that she cared for him more than the other. Both had been called into the service at about the same time, and even though Jean had made no decision between them when they left, Rick still resented Larry.

But soon personal things had to be put aside. There were snipers to be contended with,

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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2. Rule Book (including signals) for Model Railroaders.
3. Model R.R. Town Building Kit—Stores, etc.

OR

☐ I enclose 50¢ for catalog offer above plus engineer's cap

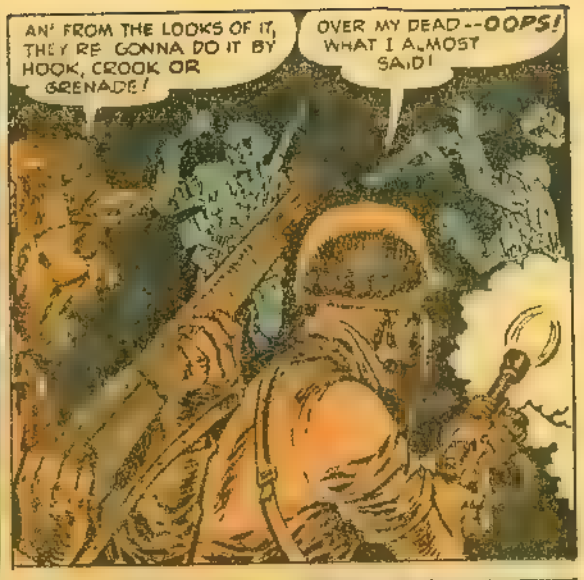
Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone_____ State_____

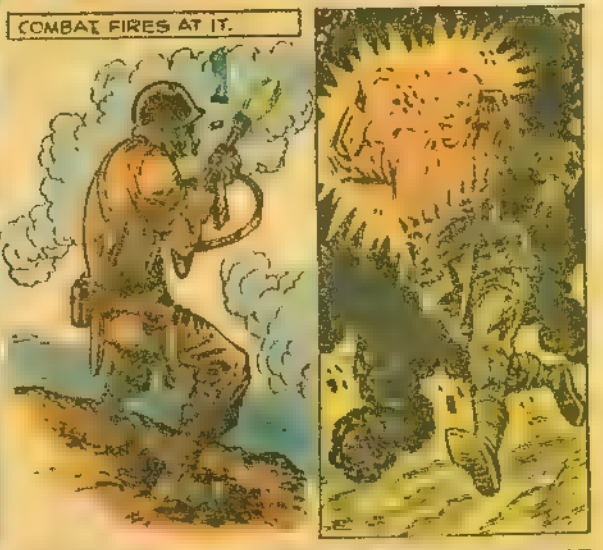
GET INTO THE THICK OF BATTLE WITH...
COMBAT KELLY
OKAY, YA SLEEPIN' UGLIES, ROLL OUT! YA LUCKY STIFFS GOT THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT ON THE GUARD DETAIL! GET OUT THERE AN' RELIEVE THE OTHER TWO GUYS. ON THE DOUBLE!
WHEW! A SWELL YO-CE-LE YEAH, O HOOLIGAN, YA MUST'A BEEN A HOG CALLER IN CIVVIE LIFE!
CA-RIPES, WHAT A TIME TO GET SKOOK OUTTA THE SACK! JUST WHEN I WAS DREAM N' ABOUT A TERRIFIC REDHEAD AN...
DON'T MENTION DAMES TO ME, COOKE! IF WE HADN'T CAPTURED THAT YALU RIVER ROSIE FEMALE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE PULLIN' GUARD NOW!
HOLY SMOKES, COMBAT! LOOK! THE GUYS WE'RE SUPPOSED TO RELIEVE ARE OUT COLD!
YEAH... AN' THEY RE NOT THE ONLY ONES THAT'RE OUT! YALU RIVER ROSIE HAS FLOWN THE COOP!
YEAH, BUT SHE AIN'T FLOWN FAR! LOOK! THERE SHE IS, COMBAT! AN' SHE'S GOT A MILITARY ESCORT!
DON'T POINT WITH YER FINGER COOKE! USE YER RIFLE!
JOE Maneely
HANK CHAPMAN

THAT SLIPPERY DAME IS GETTIN' AWAY COMBAT! SHE'S HOPP'N INTO A COMMIE LIMOJS'NE WITH A CHAUFFEUR!
YEAH--AN' SHE'S LEAV'N A MOB OF STOOGES BEHIND TO KEEP US FROM TRAIL'N' HER!

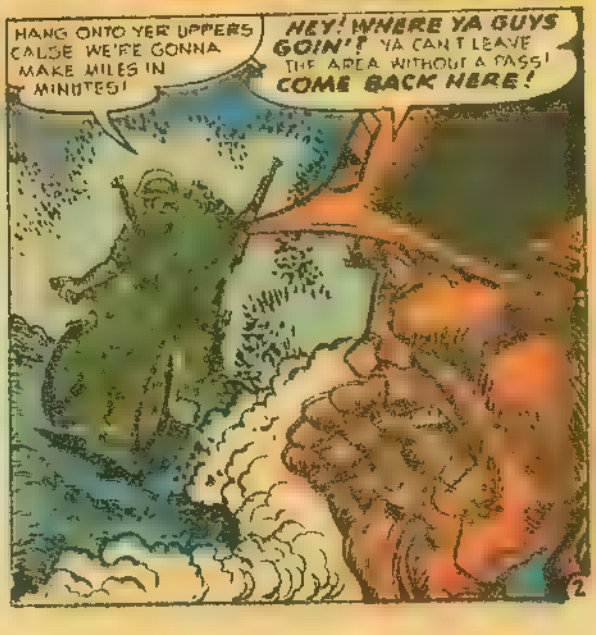

AN' FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, THEY'RE GONNA DO IT BY HOOK, CROOK OR GRENADE!
OVER MY DEAD--OOPS! WHAT I ALMOST SAID!

THE RED YANKS THE SAFETY PIN ON THE GRENADE

HE HEAVES IT


COMBAT FIRES AT IT.

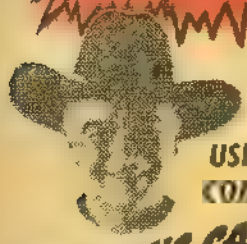
.. HELP IS COMIN'! SARGE O'HOOLIGAN AN' SOME OF THE OTHER DOGGIES!
LET'S LEAVE THE REST OF THOSE COMMIES FOR 'EM! WE'RE LOOK'N' AFTER YALU RIVER ROSE! HOP IN THE RUMBLE SEAT OF THIS COURIER BIKE, COOKIE!


HANG ONTO YER UPPERS CAUSE WE'RE GONNA MAKE MILES IN MINUTES!
HEY! WHERE YA GUYS GOIN'! YA CAN'T LEAVE THE AREA WITHOUT A PASS! COME BACK HERE!

HE ZIGZAGS IT THRU THE
HE SHOOTS IT ACROSS THE RIVER
YOU CRAWL LIKE A SICK SNAKE, FOOL! FASTER! THEY'RE GAINING ON US!
NOTHING CAN MAKE THIS WORTHLESS CONVEYANCE GAIN SPEED! I HAVE THE ACCELERATOR TO THE
OKAY, REAR-GUNNER. GET YER RIFLE CRACKIN'! AN' DON'T WASTE LEAD TRYIN' TO PICK HER OFF! NAIL THE DRIVER!
CONSIDER HIM NAILED, COMBAT!
ARGHH!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

BUILD BIG MUSCLES as "HOPPY" Does



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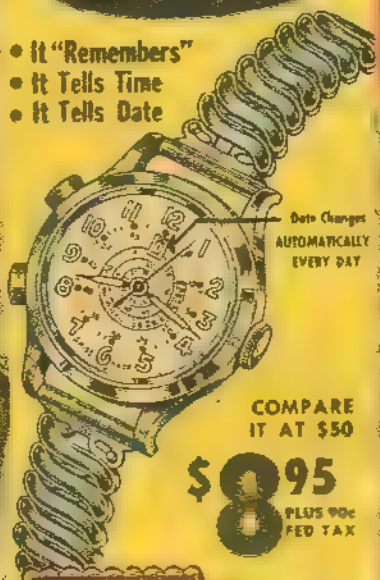

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CA-RIPES! THAT DAME'S LIKE A CAT!
YEAH... BUT I PREFER THE PUSSY CATS...
SHOOTIN' GUNS!
REMOVE YOUR WORTHLESS FLESH FROM YOUR WAGON PEASANT, AND UNHITCH YOUR HORSE! QUICK!.. OR YOU'LL NEVER WALLOW IN THE MUD OF YOUR RICE FIELDS AGAIN!
YES I HASTEN TO OBEY! DON'T SHOOT!
REMEMBER PEASANT THAT SILENCE IS GOLDEN AND TO YOU IT IS A JEWEL WORTH YOUR TONGUE!
IT TAKES THE FARMER A FEW MINUTES BEFORE HE IS ABLE TO REVIVE COMBAT AND COOKIE ...
A THOUSAND PARDONS FOR
WHICH WAY
I PROMISED NOT TO TELL BUT I SAID NOTHING ABOUT SAYING WHICH WAY SHE DID NOT GO! SO
NOR SOUTH
BUT WHAT GOOD DOES
ON A HORSE ANYWAY

THE HORSELESS WAGON ROLLS DOWN THE HILL, AS IF IT WERE HITCHED TO A TEAM OF SIXTEEN PHANTOM HORSES...

CARIPES, COMBAT, THERE SHE IS! BUT HOW'RE WE GONNA STOP THIS CHARIOT WHEN WE CATCH UP?

STOPPIN' THIS EXPRESS IS YOUR WORRY, COOKIE!

AN' MINE IS STOPPIN' THIS DAME!

AS COMBAT MAKES THE JUMP...ROSIE MAKES ONE, TOO!

HI, ROSIE! GLAD TO SEE ME?

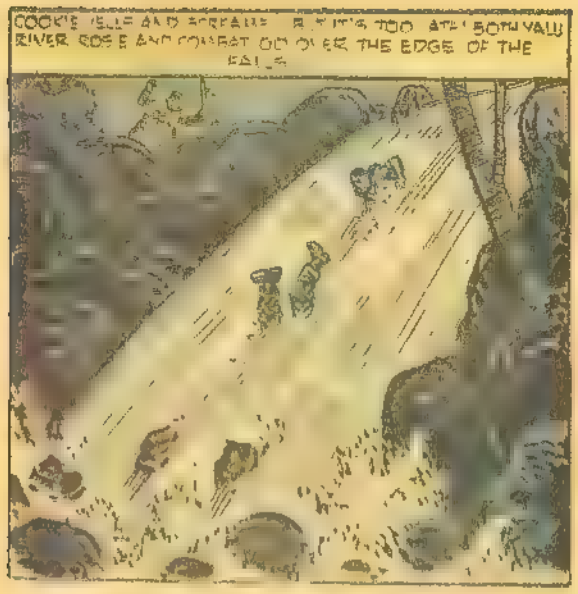
YOUR COMPANY IS REPULSIVE! I'M LEAVING!

YER PLAYIN' HARD-TO-GET, BABY! BUT I DON'T DISCOURAGE EASY!

COOKIE HAS MORE LUCK STOPPING THE WAGON THAN COMBAT HAS IN TRYING TO STOP YALU RIVER COOKIE!

GROGGY AND SHAKEN, COOKIE CRAWLS TO THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF AND LOOKS DOWN

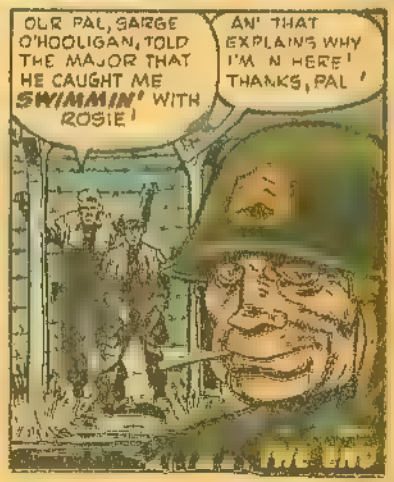
HOLY SMOKE! THE CURRENT'S DRAGGIN' BOTH OF 'EM DOWNSTREAM...TOWARD THOSE BIG FALLS! THEY'LL BE KILLED ON THE ROCKS BELOW!



WITH HIS HEAD BENT LOW, TEARS IN HIS EYES, COOKIE STARTS TO WALK BACK TO HIS BASE... ALONE!
GONE...HE'S GONE! I'LL NEVER BE THE SAME WITHOUT GOOD OLD COMBAT!

AND WHEN COOKIE GETS TO LT. OUTEN, HE REPORTS TO MAJOR THORN AND STARTS TO TELL HIM THE STORY...
..AN' THEN COMBAT TOOK A DIVE OFF THE HORSE AN'--
A MIGHTY TOUCHING STORY, PRIVATE NOVAK!

SO WHAT'RE YA DOIN' IN THE STOCKADE?
DEAD? NAW, WE MISSED THE ROCKS AN MADE IT OVER THE FALLS! WE FLOATED DOWN THE RIVER RIGHT TO OUR CAMP AN' SARGE O'HOOLIGAN FISHED US OUT!



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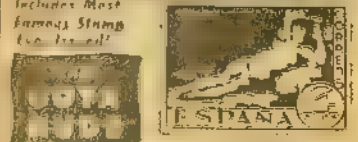

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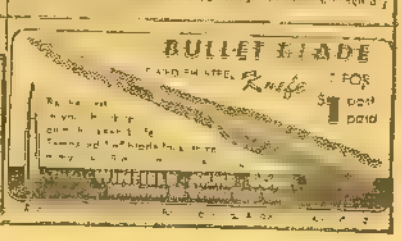
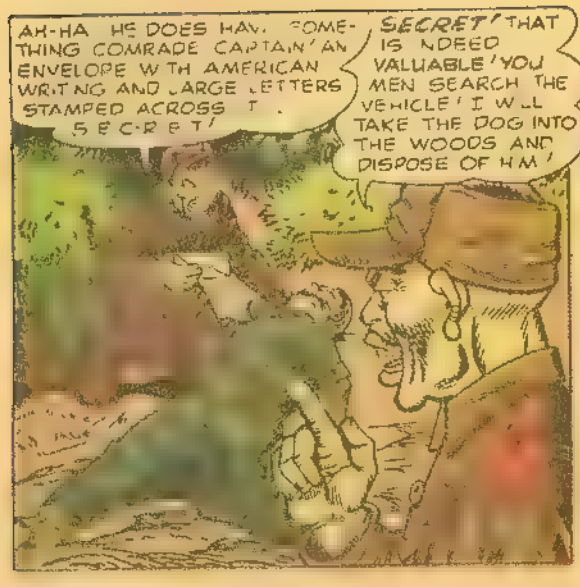


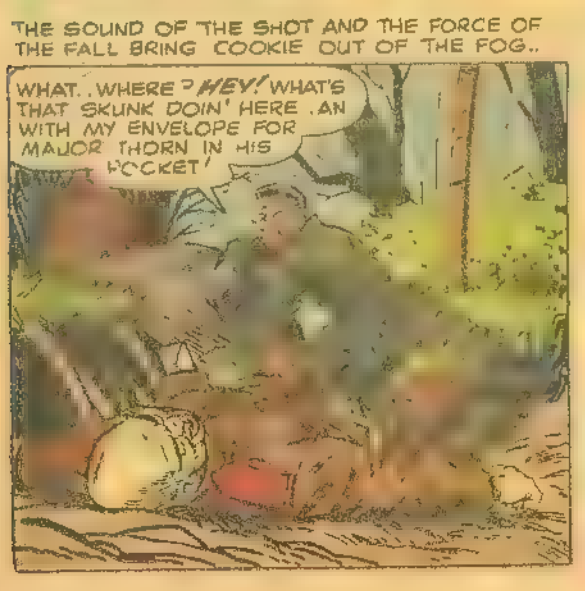
HERE'S COOKIE!

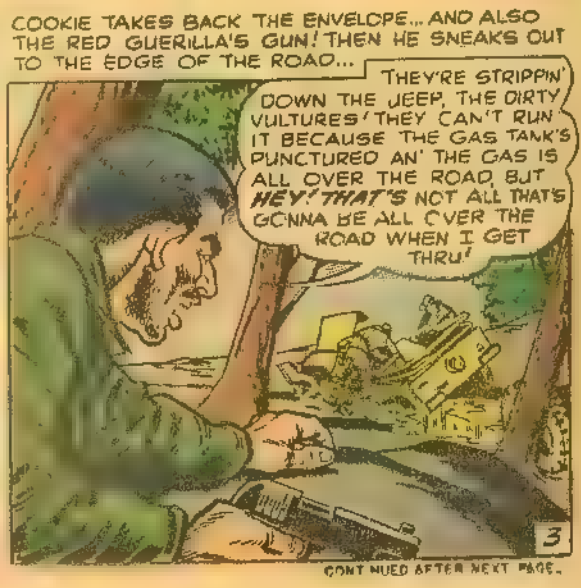
HERE YOU ARE, COOKIE.. THIS IS THE MESSAGE MAJOR THORN SENT YOU FOR! DELIVER IT TO HIM PERSONALLY!
YES, COLONEL GIOLETTI!
SECRET
IT SURE WAS NICE OF MAJOR THORN TO PUT ME ON THIS PLUSH DETAIL! ALL I GOTTA DO IS RIDE THIS VEHICLE AN DELIVER MESSAGES!
CA-RIPES! WHATTA RACKET THIS IS!
BR-ROOM!

HOLY CA-RIPES! I THOUGHT ALL THESE REAR AREA ROADS WERE SWEPT CLEAN OF MINES, AN... HEY!
RED GUERRILLAS! THEY'RE THE ONES THAT LAID THAT IRON EGG! THEY'RE AFTER THE ENVELOPE I'M SUPPOSED TO DELIVER TO MAJOR THORN...
BRAM
BUT THE ONLY THING THEY'RE GETTING IS M-1 MAIL!
..AN' AIR MAIL GRENADES!
KA-LUNK
GOOD WORK, WU! NOW SEARCH THE MONGREL.. HE MAY BE CARRYING PAPERS OR A MESSAGE!
YES, COMRADE CAPTAIN!
2


AH-HA HE DOES HAV. SOME-THING COMRADE CAPTAIN' AN ENVELOPE W TH AMERICAN WRITNG AND LARGE LETTERS STAMPED ACROSS T . S E C-R E T'
SECRET' THAT IS INDEED VALUABLE' YOU MEN SEARCH THE VEHICLE' I W LL TAKE THE DOG INTO THE WOODS AND DISPOSE OF H M'

THE RED CAPTAIN DRAGS COOKIE INTO THE FOREST AND PROPS HIM UP AGAINST A TREE ..
STAND HERE, CUR! IT'S NOT A VERY STRONG TREE.. BUT THEN YOU WON'T BE STANDING VERY LONG'


THE SOUND OF THE SHOT AND THE FORCE OF THE FALL BRING COOKIE OUT OF THE FOG..
WHAT.. WHERE? HEY! WHAT'S THAT SKUNK DOIN' HERE .AN WITH MY ENVELOPE FOR MAJOR THORN IN HIS POCKET'


COOKIE TAKES BACK THE ENVELOPE... AND ALSO THE RED GUERILLA'S GUN! THEN HE SNEAKS OUT TO THE EDGE OF THE ROAD...
THEY'RE STRIPPIN' DOWN THE JEEP, THE DIRTY VULTURES' THEY CAN'T RUN IT BECAUSE THE GAS TANK'S PUNCTURED AN' THE GAS IS ALL OVER THE ROAD, BUT HEY! THAT'S NOT ALL THAT'S GONNA BE ALL OVER THE ROAD WHEN I GET THRU'
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE.

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AND IT WORKS.
VOOM
THEN COOKIE HEADS TOWARDS HIS DESTINATION ON FOOT
I LOST THE JEEP BUT I STILL GOT THE MESSAGE!
HOURS LATER, HE STUMBLES INTO HIS OUTFIT'S BASE AREA.
HOLY SMOKES.. HERE'S COOKIE!
TAKE ME TO, TO MAJOR THORN. I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR HIM!
IT'S MARKED SECRET, MAJOR THORN!
AND IT CERTAINLY IS, COOKE! IT'S COLONEL GOLETT'S GRANDMOTHERS SECRET RECIPE FOR SPAGHETTI SAUCE! HMMM.. THE OFFICER'S MESS WILL BE CRAZY ABOUT THIS!
THANKS FOR GETTING IT FOR ME COOKIE..AND IF ANY MORE EASY DETAILS COME UP, I'LL REMEMBER YOU!
IF THEY'RE AS EASY AS THIS ONE WAS, MAJOR THEN PLEASE FORGET ME!

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107 DIFFERENT Stamps from Cochin Ocean 3¢
Come out, Malta, Cyprus, etc. To Approval Buyers.
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A packet of stamps from all parts of world. A package of stamp hinges, perforation gauge and millimeter scale, watermark detector. Everything ONLY 10c to approval buyers.
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and with grim determination, the men moved on, leaving behind them a couple of more unfortunate ones who had caught Commie bullets.

It was directly after a hurried mail call in a muddy trench that the men received word that a band of Commies was headed toward them, bent on wiping them all out. The men stuffed unopened letters in their pockets, and dug into battle with cold fury. It was then that Rick saw the gold-toothed grin just above him, a bayonet poised for action in the Red soldier's hands. He managed to duck in time, and Larry, who had been crouched down nearby, found himself face to face with the enraged Commie soldier.

'Let HIM battle it out," thought Rick, wiping his brow, as he saw Larry thrashing out along against the intruder. "I'm not gonna lift a finger." But Rick didn't have to. Larry, with a swift motion of his arm, brought up a clenched fist. Rick watched as the Red fell, and saw a white envelope slip from Larry's pocket. Larry dragged the prisoner to another trench, and Rick carefully picked up the envelope. It was a letter . . . a letter just received, and it was from JEAN. His heart sank . . . and his mind boiled with thoughts of the contents of the letter Larry would read.

"Let him have it . . . maybe I'll have the luck to see him get something else . . . special delivery from the Commies." Rick snarled.

And then a frenzied cry woke Rick from his thoughts. He looked up and saw a band of three Commies racing for the trench. Before he could think, one had jumped into the trench with him, but Rick's bayonet found its mark.

He heard the shout "Kill 'Melican . . . KILL!" but nothing else, for his fists, his rifle, his mind were too busy. There were two Commies to himself. When he saw the grinning faces near his, his rage heightened, and he smashed his right hand into the face of one of them. The pain from the burns made him dizzy, and he felt himself

passing out.

When he woke, he still had the white envelope tucked in his belt. He looked around him . . . and the sounds of battle were in the distance. He turned his head and saw Larry beside him . . . he was lying on his back, his arm covered with blood-stained bandage, and an ugly bruise on his forehead. He heard someone talking.

"That guy Boehm sure is a buddy. Rick wouldn't even shake his hand, and yet Larry saved his life. What a guy!"

Rick looked at Larry, who was staring up at the sky, and smoking a cigarette with his good arm.

"Say," Rick said, "You dropped something. Kept it for you. And . . . well, thanks, Larry."

Rick's heart felt heavy as he handed Jean's letter to Larry. He watched Larry read, and waited for the smile of contentment and victory which would no doubt be next. But there was no smile . . . only a twist of the mouth, and then a small cough. Rick sat up when he saw Larry hand him the letter.

He couldn't understand it. Yet he read the words, understanding coming over him slowly ". . . so, Larry, I've found that this separation has let me decide finally . . . it's Rick . . . and I know he'll ask me to marry him as soon as he's back home. I am sorry, and hope you will understand how I feel."

Rick gulped, and a tear came to the corner of his eye. He didn't deserve it, he knew, but he would do his best to make it up to Larry.

"It's the best man who lost, this time, Larry," Rick smiled. ". . . but I . . . I don't know what . . . to say to you now."

Larry crushed out the cigarette and lifted himself on his good elbow. "Let's just shake, like old times."

Rick smiled, and automatically raised his right arm, at the same time Larry lifted his. The two men broke out in laughter when they realized that both their right arms were covered with bandages.

It turned out to be a left-handed handshake, but one full of warmth and comradeship.

THE END B 381

GET INTO THE THICK OF BATTLE WITH

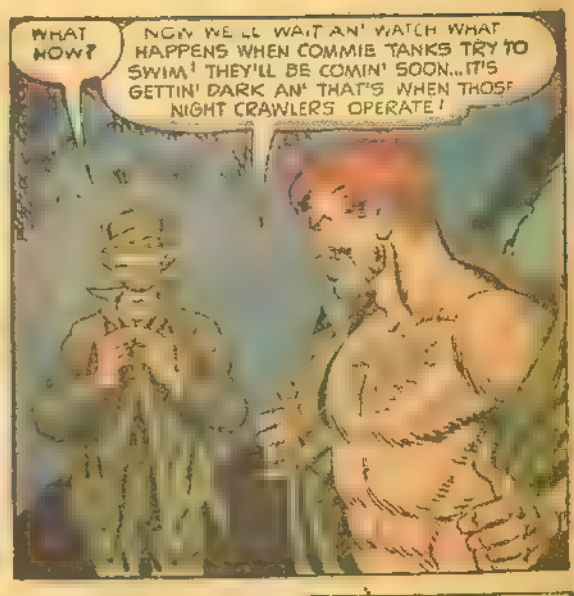
COMBAT KELLY

CRIPES, COMBAT, THERE AIN'T NO BRIDGE OVER THIS RIVER! WE'VE HOOFED BOTH WAYS FOR MILES IN THIS HOT SUN AN' WE AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN'!
YEAH... BUT THAT'S COMMIE TERRITORY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS LONG DRINK AN' THEY'VE BEEN GETTIN' TANKS OVER TO OUR SIDE FOR NIGHT ATTACKS!
AW, I DON'T THINK NOTHIN' IN THE HEAT... I'M GONNA DUNK MY HEAD IN THE COOL
OW-W!
I CAN'T EXPLAIN NOW, COOKIE!.. BUT THIS DROP-KICK IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!

PLOP!
POW
THEN COMBAT TURNS TO THE RIVER AND SEES HIS PAL COOKIE LYING FACE DOWN IN THE MUDDY WATER—
HOLY SMOKES! HE—HE MUST'A DROWNED!
CRIPES, I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE . I HOPE COOKIE'S STILL ALIVE!

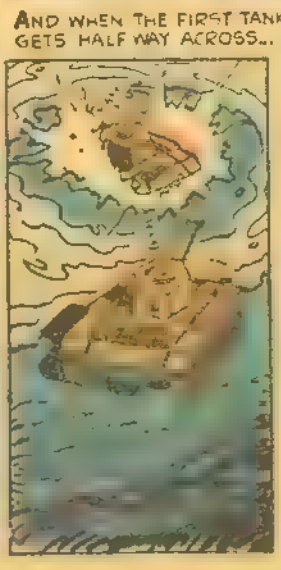
COOKIE, PAL! I'M SORRY! IT'S ALL MY FAULT! I DID IT TO SAVE YOUR LIFE BUT I GUESS I MUSTA BOOTED YA TOO HARD! SPEAK TO ME, COOKIE.. SAY SOMETHIN'!
BLUB! BLUB! BLUB!
HOLY SMOKES! YOU--YOU'RE OKAY!
I DUNNO ABOUT THAT COMBAT! I THINK I'M GOIN' BATTY! WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YA THAT I SAW A BRIDGE UNDERWATER! THAT'S WHAT I WAS STARIN AT WHEN YA YANKED ME UP!
THAT WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO!
AN UNDERWATER BRIDGE? CA-RIPES!
I'M GOIN' BELOW FOR A PEEK!
YER RIGHT, COOKIE! AN' I REMEMBER NOW THAT THE RUSSIANS PULLED A TRICK LIKE THIS ON THE GERMANS IN THE LAST WAR! AN' NOW THE REDS HAVE BORROWED IT!
WHATTA WE GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
WE'LL TAKE IT APART! LET'S GO TO [illegible] AN' PEEL OFF [illegible] WHILE THEY'RE [illegible] WE'LL MAKE A NICE BIG HOLE IN THAT UNDERWATER HIGHWAY!
IT'S GONNA BE A TOUGH JOB WITHOUT ANY TOOLS!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE TWO DOGGIES ARE UNDERWATER, FORCING THE WEAKEST LINK OF THE BRIDGE WITH A GIANT LOG

...WORK FOR HOURS HARD BACK-BR... ...RK! BUT WHEN THEY FINISH, THE UNDER-... ...GAPING HOLE RIPPED IN IT!


WHAT NOW?
NOW WE'LL WAIT AN' WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN COMMIE TANKS TRY TO SWIM! THEY'LL BE COMIN' SOON...IT'S GETTIN' DARK AN' THAT'S WHEN THOSE NIGHT CRAWLERS OPERATE!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, ... ROLL UP TO THE RIVER...

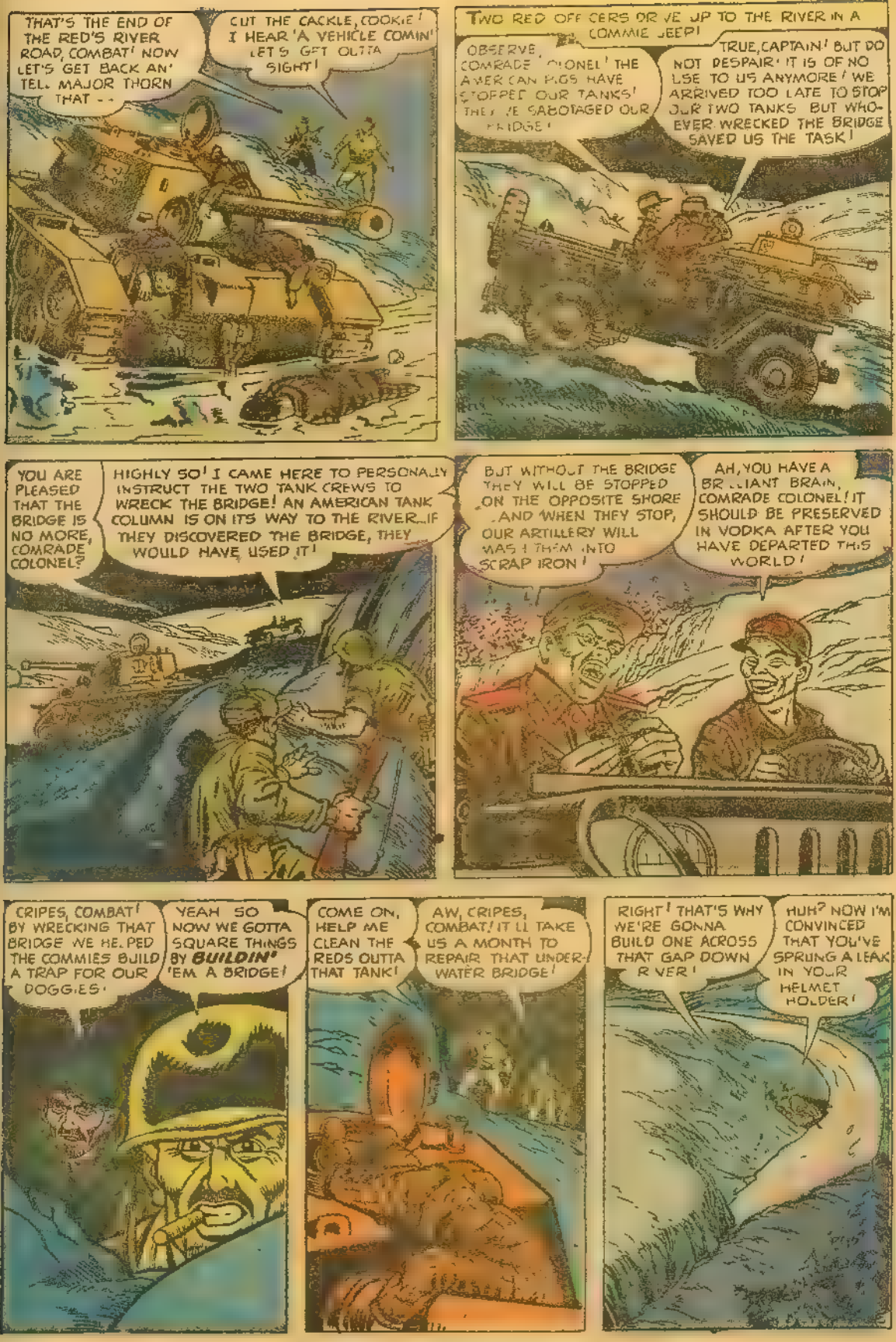
THEN THEY CREEP INTO THE WATER ON THE BRIDGE!


AND WHEN THE FIRST TANK GETS HALF WAY ACROSS...

IN A FEW SECONDS ONLY A WREATH OF WATER REMAINS WHERE THE TANK WAS .

THE ... TOPS AND THE RED CREW

AND THE TWO DOGGIES GET TO THEM


THAT'S THE END OF THE RED'S RIVER ROAD, COMBAT! NOW LET'S GET BACK AN' TELL MAJOR THORN THAT --
CUT THE CACKLE, COOKIE! I HEAR A VEHICLE COMIN' LET'S GET OUTTA SIGHT!
TWO RED OFFICERS DRIVE UP TO THE RIVER IN A COMMIE JEEP!
OBSERVE, COMRADE COLONEL! THE AMERICAN PIGS HAVE STOPPED OUR TANKS! THEY'VE SABOTAGED OUR BRIDGE!
TRUE, CAPTAIN! BUT DO NOT DESPAIR! IT IS OF NO USE TO US ANYMORE! WE ARRIVED TOO LATE TO STOP OUR TWO TANKS BUT WHOEVER WRECKED THE BRIDGE SAVED US THE TASK!
YOU ARE PLEASED THAT THE BRIDGE IS NO MORE, COMRADE COLONEL?
HIGHLY SO! I CAME HERE TO PERSONALLY INSTRUCT THE TWO TANK CREWS TO WRECK THE BRIDGE! AN AMERICAN TANK COLUMN IS ON ITS WAY TO THE RIVER...IF THEY DISCOVERED THE BRIDGE, THEY WOULD HAVE USED IT!
BUT WITHOUT THE BRIDGE THEY WILL BE STOPPED ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE AND WHEN THEY STOP, OUR ARTILLERY WILL MASH THEM INTO SCRAP IRON!
AH, YOU HAVE A BRILLIANT BRAIN, COMRADE COLONEL! IT SHOULD BE PRESERVED IN VODKA AFTER YOU HAVE DEPARTED THIS WORLD!
CRIPES, COMBAT! BY WRECKING THAT BRIDGE WE HELPED THE COMMIES BUILD A TRAP FOR OUR DOGGIES!
YEAH SO NOW WE GOTTA SQUARE THINGS BY BUILDIN' 'EM A BRIDGE!
COME ON, HELP ME CLEAN THE REDS OUTTA THAT TANK!
AW, CRIPES, COMBAT! IT'LL TAKE US A MONTH TO REPAIR THAT UNDERWATER BRIDGE!
RIGHT! THAT'S WHY WE'RE GONNA BUILD ONE ACROSS THAT GAP DOWN RIVER!
HUH? NOW I'M CONVINCED THAT YOU'VE SPRUNG A LEAK IN YOUR HELMET HOLDER!

COMBAT AND COOKIE CLEAN OUT THE COMMIE TANK AND THEN COMBAT DRIVES IT UP THE HILL TOWARD THE ANY OLD GAP
THEN HE RAMS THE GEAR SHIFT INTO HIGH AND THE TANK LEAPS FORWARD
THE IRON MONSTER GETS JAMMED BETWEEN THE TWO CANYON WALLS AND THE BRIDGE IS BUILT
COMBAT JUMPS OUT AND DIRECTS THE AMERICAN TANK FORCE OVER THE IMPROVISED SPAN
KEEP ROLLIN' TANKER! GO AHEAD! IT'LL HOLD!
THAT PUL BE GIVE WHEN I'M ON THE OTHER SIDE BLAZIN' AWAY AT THE REDS!
THE FIRST TANK MAKES IT! SO THE OTHER GI GIANTS CRAWL OVER AND RAM INTO THE GROGGY COMMIE LINE!
AND THEN MAJOR THORN MOVES UP WITH HIS INFANTRY OUTFIT...
GOOD WORK, COMBAT... BUT WHERE'S COOKIE?
HOLY SMOKES! I-I-I DON'T ALL
HEY COMBAT! FOR CA-RIPES SAKES! ARE YOU DEEF? GET ME OUTTA THIS THING, WILL YA?

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

BOYS! GIRLS! MOTHERS! DADS!

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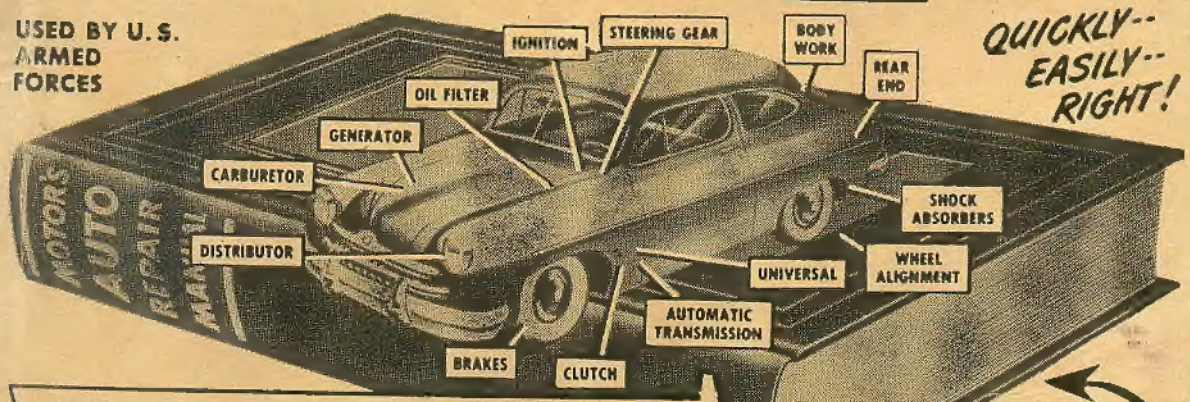

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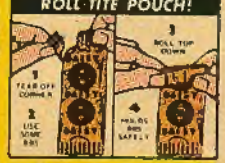

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